



ARMY GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION



As you advance through your medical career, you will be looking for experiences that blend teaching, research and clinical excellence to best prepare you for unique and challenging opportunities in medicine. And, there is no better way to acquire this kind of experience than through the Graduate Medical Education (GME) programs offered by the U.S. Army Medical Department.

The following is a summary of what the Army Health Care Team has to offer in this important area of education:

- Largest graduate medical educational program within all the military branches, encompassing all the medical specialties
- 11 training hospitals and three institutes:

Armed Forces Institute of Pathology,
Washington, D.C.

Brooke Army Medical Center,
San Antonio, Texas

Darnall Army Medical Center,
Killeen, Texas

DeWitt Army Community Hospital,
Alexandria, Va.

Eisenhower Army Medical Center,
Augusta, Ga.

Institute of Surgical Research,
Fort Sam Houston, Texas

Keller Army Community Hospital,
West Point, N.Y.

Madigan Army Medical Center,
Tacoma, Wash.

Martin Army Community Hospital,
Columbus, Ga.

Tripler Army Medical Center,
Honolulu, Hawaii

Walter Reed Army Institute of Research,
Silver Spring, Md.

Walter Reed Army Medical Center,
Washington, D.C.

William Beaumont Army Medical Center,
El Paso, Texas

Womack Army Medical Center,
Fayetteville, N.C.

All Army hospitals are accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, which also accredits civilian hospitals.

Residencies

The majority of Army physicians train in our 78 residencies and 43 fellowships. Army residency programs offer training in:

Aerospace Medicine
Anesthesiology
Dermatology
Emergency Medicine
Family Medicine
General Surgery
Internal Medicine
Neurology and Child Neurology
Neurosurgery
Obstetrics/Gynecology
Ophthalmology
Orthopaedics
Otolaryngology
Pathology
Pediatrics
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
Preventive Medicine/Occupational Medicine
Psych/IM and Psych/FM
Psychiatry
Radiation Oncology
Radiology
Urology

Fellowships

Sponsored training in civilian fellowships is available in certain subspecialties. Our fellows are accepted to many excellent training institutions including Johns Hopkins University, Stanford, University of California, Duke University, National Institutes of Health, University of Texas, University of Virginia, University of Pennsylvania, Emory University,

Brigham and Women's Hospital, University of Washington, and Yale University.

Nuclear Medicine and Plastic Surgery are offered at the fellowship level.

Below is a sampling of both Army and Army-sponsored civilian fellowships that are offered. This list is not inclusive. Some of our programs are integrated with the Navy in the National Capital Area and with the Air Force in San Antonio.

In House Fellowships

Allergy

Anesthesia

Pain Management

Family Medicine

Faculty Development
Sports Medicine

Medicine

Cardiology
Gastroenterology
Infectious Diseases
Pulmonary/Critical Care
Hematology/Oncology
Nephrology
Endocrinology

Nuclear Medicine

Obstetrics/Gynecology

Gynecology Oncology
Maternal-Fetal Medicine

Orthopaedics

Hand Surgery
Sports Medicine

Pediatrics

Pediatric Gastroenterology
Pediatric Infectious Disease
Neonatology

Psychiatry

Addiction Psychiatry
Forensic Psychiatry
Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

Civilian Fellowships

Cardiology

Interventional Cardiology

Dermatology

Immunodermatology
MOHS/Dermatologic Surgery

General Surgery

Plastic Surgery
Colon/Rectal Surgery
Advanced Laparoscopic Surgery

Ophthalmology

PCorneal/External Disease
Glaucoma
Retinal Surgery

Orthopaedics

Spine Surgery
Children's Orthopaedics
Foot and Ankle Surgery

Radiology

Vascular/Interventional Radiology

Urology

Pediatric Urology
Urology Oncology

Accreditation

All Army residency and fellowship programs are accredited by the American Council for Graduate Medical Education; in addition, the average length of accreditation for our programs is 4.3 years as compared with the average civilian program length of accreditation of 3.7 years.

Graduates of our programs have an average 95 percent first time board pass rate. The first time pass rate has been 100 percent for the past three years in 14 specialties (dermatology, endocrinology, critical care, gastroenterology, nephrology, radiation oncology, thoracic surgery, vascular surgery, neurosurgery, preventive medicine, nuclear medicine, physical medicine and rehabilitation, adolescent medicine and sports medicine). All of these measures are well above national first time pass rates for these specialties (civilian first time pass rates for these specialties range from 71 to 92 percent).

Our faculties are board-certified in their specialty and are dedicated to teaching as they are not distracted by some of the business aspects of medicine. Many faculties are involved in research and their work is presented at annual specialty meetings and published in respected medical journals and textbooks.

The Emergency Medicine residents at Darnall Army Medical Center have achieved the top score on the annual in-service exam out of the 127 programs across the nation for an unprecedented six years in a row. One of the residents related, "Each individual in our program works hard to represent ourselves, our program and the military on this in-service exam."

Opportunities

All Reserve Officers' Training Corps, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences and Health Professions Scholarship Program (HPSP) medical students choose their own specialty goal and must apply to the Army's match for the First Year of Graduate Medical Education (FYGME). If selected, they will participate in the Army program. If they do not match to an Army program, in most cases they will be deferred to match into a civilian program in their chosen specialty.



The Army Medical Education Directorate publishes instructions for the FYGME match and the Joint Services Graduate Medical Education Selection Board (JSGMESB) in July every year. The FYGME match application deadline is in October, and the GME application for the second postgraduate year (PGY-2) and above positions, to include fellowships, is Sept. 15. The JSGMESB is held the last week in November and the results of the selection board and the FYGME match are released around Dec. 15.

The Army match is a computerized match similar to the National Resident Matching Program (NRMP). Historically, about 75 to 85 percent of HPSP students will match to an Army program, and about 85 percent will match to their first or second choice program. According to the NRMP, in this year's civilian match, 75.6 percent of students matched to their first or second choice.

Since 2003, the Army has phased in continuous GME contracts for most of our specialties. This means that once a student matches to a residency, the student can complete the entire

residency without having to leave after internship to complete a General Medical Officer (GMO) tour of duty. Currently, the only specialties that require reapplication for PGY-2 and above are Aerospace Medicine, Preventive/Occupational Medicine, and General Surgery.

Applying

Civilian physicians who are interested in applying to our residency programs must be United States citizens, graduates of an accredited (Liaison Committee for Medical Education or American Osteopathic Association) school of medicine in the United States or Puerto Rico, be enrolled in or have completed a first postgraduate year in an Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education or American Osteopathic Association-accredited program, have passed Steps One through Three of the licensure exam (passed Steps One and Two if a student or current intern) and possess a current unrestricted medical license (exception for students/current interns). The graduate medical education provision does not apply to those individuals selected for the Army's FYGME program.

If applying for a fellowship, the applicant must be board eligible/certified in their initial specialty. If a graduate of a foreign medical school, the applicant must possess an Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates Certificate, have unrestricted licensure to practice medicine in the United States or U.S. territory, and have successfully completed one year of GME in an accredited program. Please note that a civilian applicant's best opportunity for training in an Army program is in one of our shortage specialties as we are obliged to give priority to current Army students and physicians.

Discovery

The Army does not deploy its residents or fellows, but there are opportunities to participate in humanitarian missions in a few of our residency programs. Some of our pediatric and family medicine residents have been on missions to Mongolia, Kenya, Honduras, and the Philippines.

Graduating residents work with their specialty consultant to determine their first duty assignment. Primary care physicians (family physicians, internists, pediatricians and emergency physicians) can be assigned to clinics, hospitals or serve as the battalion surgeon for a line unit. Physicians whose skills require that they remain in the hospital setting (surgeons, anesthesia, radiology, ophthalmology, etc.) will be assigned to any of the Army's hospitals. Assignments vary in length, with the average length being three years.

Current deployments for Army medical personnel have ranged from 30 to 365 days, depending on the needs of the Army. We are caring for our Soldiers worldwide, as well as providing humanitarian assistance or disaster relief for home (New Orleans) and abroad (Pakistan, Indonesia).

There are multiple opportunities in the Medical Corps as your career progresses. Our physicians excel in the clinical, research, operational, academic and health administrative arenas. Many have worked in more than one career track throughout their time in the Army, and have held leadership positions ahead of their civilian counterparts. In fact, Army physicians are highly competitive for civilian jobs when leaving the Army. Many former Army physicians serve as faculty in medical schools and residency programs.

For further information on Army Graduate Medical Education, please write to us at gme@otsg.amedd.army.mil or call 703-681-4804 or visit healthcare.goarmy.com.